Family-Devotion:

OR, AN

EXHORTATION

TO

MORNING and EVENING

PRAYER

IN

FAMILIES:

WITH TWO

FORMS of PRAYER,

Suited to thoſe two Seaſons, and alſo fitted for the Uſe of one Perſon in Private.

To which are now added,

Two ſhorter FORMS to be uſed by *Children* and *Servants*, when they cannot conveniently be preſent at the FAMILY PRAYERS.

Firſt drawn up for the Uſe of the Inhabitants of the Pariſh of *Lambeth*, and now Reviſed and Enlarged.

By the Right Reverend Father in GOD,

EDMUND GIBSON, D. D.

Late Lord Biſhop of LONDON.

THE TWENTY FIFTH EDITION.

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BRITISH MUSEUM
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TO THE

INHABITANTS

Of the PARISH of

LAMBETH.

MY BRETHREN,

HAVING *drawn up for your Uſe ſuch a Form of* Morning *and* Evening *Prayer, as I conceive to be proper in your Families, I now put it into your Hands; together with an earneſt Exhortation to the Practice of Family-Devotion. It hath pleaſed the Providence of GOD to commit to me the* Care *of your Souls; and as I am obliged, in a peculiar Manner, to deſire and endeavour the* Salvation *of them, ſo I know nothing that will forward it more, than the Exerciſe of Daily Devotion in your Families.*

The many Benefits that will accrue to you and your Families from this Godly Practice, are plainly set down in the following Exhortation; which I beseech you to read and consider seriously. And when you have read it, and seen the excellent Ends and Uses of Family Devotion; consider farther, how ill it becomes any Christian to suffer himself and his Family to live in the daily Neglect *of a Duty, the daily* Practice *of which would so greatly conduce to the Saving of their Souls.*

I consider, that many of the Families under my Care, are such as live by the Labour of their Hands, and have not much Time to spare; and therefore I took Care to comprehend the proper Matter of both the Prayers in as short a Compass as might be; so short, that the longer of them may be decently read to a Family in little more than Half a Quarter *of an Hour. And they must be very indifferent Christians, who can grudge God and their Souls so small a Portion of their Time, not considering, how plentifully it would be made up by the Comfort and Benefit of that Blessing which our Prayers secure to us. Where Men are not* inclined *to Exercises of this Nature, it is easy to find Pretences and Excuses to avoid them; but if there be first a* willing Mind, *Time and Opportunity will seldom be wanting; and to bring Men to a Willing Mind, it should be remembered, that such*

ſuch Excuſes will only ſerve them in this World.

This Exerciſe of Morning and Evening Prayer, where Families have lived in the Neglect of it, may appear ſomewhat ſtrange at the Beginning, as all Things do that are new and unuſual. But if Parents and Maſters would ſettle *their Hours of Prayer, and oblige as many of the Family to be preſent as conveniently may; it would in a little Time appear as ſtrange to* omit *them; and the Service of GOD would be reckoned, as in all Chriſtian Families it ought, a neceſſary Part of every Day's Buſineſs.*

I am aware, that extraordinary Occaſions will ſometimes happen, which may make it neceſſary to omit Morning or Evening Prayer in the Family, *when perhaps ſome one Member of that Family may be at Leiſure for it. I am alſo afraid, that there will be ſome Maſters and Fathers ſo void of all Religion, as to take no Care of ſettling this Godly Practice in their Families; nay, ſome may be ſo very wicked, as even to hinder and forbid it; when yet a Wife, or a Child, or a Servant, may be religiouſly inclined, and deſirous to perform their Duty in private. Upon which Conſiderations, I have fitted theſe two Family-Prayers for the Uſe of one* ſingle Perſon, *and to that End have printed them apart; foreſeeing, that if the many Changes which are neceſſary*

to

to fit publick Prayers for private Uſe, were to be made by particular Perſons in the Act of Praying, it would be a great Diſturbance to their Attention and Devotion.

I am alſo aware, that Children and Servants will ſometimes be unavoidably hindered from attending the Family Hours *of Prayer; and therefore that they may not remain Strangers to Devotion, and that the Practice of* Family-Prayer *may be provided for in every Part, I have thought it proper to add two ſhorter Forms, which are ſuited to the reſpective Conditions of* Children *and* Servants; *who if they cannot* ordinarily *be preſent at the Prayers of the Family, nor be* always *at Leiſure to uſe the larger Forms in private, ſhould be often admoniſhed by Parents and Maſters, that they fail not at leaſt to uſe the ſhorter Forms conſtantly, before they lie down to Reſt, and as ſoon as they riſe again.*

As it may be neceſſary, on ſome extraordinary Occaſions, to omit Prayers in the Family; ſo at other Times, and eſpecially on the Lord's Day, *there will be more Leiſure than the bare Performance of this Office requires. Which Leiſure ought to be employed in reading to the Family ſome plain and eaſy Portions of Holy Scripture, or other Books of Piety and Religion, and in* Catechiſing *ſuch of the Children and Servants who need it.*

Although

Although a Maſter or Miſtreſs ſhall (as becomes their Character and Station) take to themſelves the Office of reading Prayers to the reſt, yet it may not be amiſs to train up ſome other of the Family to be able to perform it decently, that in Caſe of their Indiſpoſition, or unavoidable Abſence, the Duty may not be omitted, and by Degrees forgotten.

You will obſerve, that each of the two Prayers for Morning and Evening, is divided into ſeveral Branches; *each Branch being a ſhorter Prayer, in the Manner of a* Collect, *and containing one diſtinct Head of the ſeveral Matters, for which a Chriſtian is bound to pray. And I choſe this Method, becauſe, in my Opinion, it keeps the Thoughts more* diſtinct, *than they can well be kept in one long continued Prayer; and if they happen to wander, the ſolemn Concluſion of one Prayer, with the Entrance upon another, and the Part which every one preſent has in ſaying* Amen *to each, is a good Means to awaken the Attention, and to recall the Thoughts to their proper Work.*

May the good Spirit of GOD ſtir up every Family under my Charge to this Practice of Daily Devotion, and continually aid and aſſiſt you in it; that thereby obtaining daily Supplies of Grace, and always living in his Fear and Obedience, you may give me Cauſe to bleſs him for making me in any Meaſure the Inſtru-

ment

ment of your Spiritual Good in this World, and may ſecure to yourſelves an Eternity of Happineſs in the next. Which is, and always will be, the earneſt Prayer of,

Your Affectionate

Brother and Paſtor,

Edmund Gibſon.

AN

EXHORTATION

TO

FAMLIY PRAYER.

PRAYER is a Service that we owe to Almighty God, as he is our Creator and Preſerver, and we his Creatures, who depend upon him for the Comforts and Neceſſaries of Body and Soul. Which Service is not only moſt reaſonable in itſelf, as it is an humble Acknowledgement of God's Dominion and Sovereignty over us; but is in many Places of Scripture expreſly enjoined by Christ and his Apoſtles, as a neceſſary

neceſſary Condition and a ſure Means of having our Wants ſupplied. Our Saviour (*Matth.* vii. 7.) makes our Aſking the only Means of our Receiving; *Ask, and it ſhall be given you; ſeek, and ye ſhall find.* And St. *James* expreſsly ſaith, (*James* iv. 2.) That *we have not, becauſe we ask not:* And St. *Paul*'s Precept is, (*Phil.* iv. 6.) That *in every Thing by Prayer and Supplication, with Thankſgiving, we let our Requeſts be made known unto GOD.*

Now the Reaſon why GOD requires us to pray to him for his Bleſſing and Aſſiſtance, is not, that he wants to be informed what our Neceſſities are; for he underſtands them much better than we ourſelves; and, as our Saviour ſpeaks, (*Matth.* vi. 8.) *knoweth what Things we have need of before we ask Him.* But the Deſign of making Prayer a Religious Ordinance, and of obliging Chriſtians to *Ask* that they may *Receive*, is to preſerve upon their Minds a conſtant Senſe of their Dependance upon GOD, and of their manifold Obligations to him; that ſo theſe daily Acknowledgements of the Divine Power and Goodneſs, may keep up in Creatures a due Fear and Love of their Creator, and an habitual Reverence and Obedience to him and his Laws.

FROM

FROM hence appears the Reaſonableneſs and Neceſſity of FREQUENT PRAYER: both in regard to the daily Wants of our Souls and Bodies, which GOD has no where promiſed to ſupply, but upon our earneſt Prayer to him; and alſo becauſe the Cares and Pleaſures of this World are very apt to make us forget the Things of the next Life, unleſs an heavenly Temper, and a Senſe of GOD's Being and Goodneſs, be preſerved upon our Souls by the Exerciſe of frequent Prayer; which is a Converſing with GOD, and the neareſt Communication we can have with him, as long as we continue in this World.

THE Apoſtle commands us (1 *Theſſ.* v. 17.) *to pray without Ceaſing*; and (*Col.* iv. 2.) *to continue in Prayer and watch in the ſame*; and (*Col.* iv. 12.) he ſpeaks of *Labouring fervently in Prayer*: From all which we learn, that this Service muſt be performed by Chriſtians, frequently and earneſtly. We read in Scripture (*Acts* iii. 1.) of the *Hours of Prayer*; and we find particularly, (*Pſal.* lv. 17. *Dan.* vi. 10.) that it was the Practice of *David* and *Daniel*, two eminently good and holy Men, to pray to GOD *three Times in a Day.*

As to the PUBLICK Service of the Church, and the Times of attending that, every Chriſtian is to be governed by the Orders and Cuſtoms of the Place and Nation in which he lives, and is bound in Duty to attend it, and to join with his Fellow-Chriſtians in praying for their common Neceſſities, as oft as Health and Buſineſs will give him Leave, and more eſpecially on the *Lord's Day*, which is ſet apart for that End.

But as to that which I am now ſpeaking of, namely, PRIVATE Prayer, whether of ſingle Perſons or Families: Although there is no expreſs and poſitive Precept, how many Times in a Day it ſhall be performed; yet I think no Perſon or Family can be accounted Religious, who do not perform this Duty of Praying to God at leaſt in the MORNING and EVENING. A true Spirit of Piety and Devotion will move private Chriſtians, who have Time and Leiſure, to retire to Prayers at other Hours alſo; eſpecially when they find extraordinary Occaſions for the Comfort and Aſſiſtance of God. But I inſiſt upon Prayer in the *Morning* and *Evening*, as that which is not only reaſonable in itſelf, but may alſo be made to ſuit the Condition and Buſineſs of

of moſt Perſons and Families, if they be but Religiouſly diſpoſed, and have Hearts willing and deſirous to pray to GOD.

IN the MORNING, when they ariſe from Reſt, and before they enter upon their daily Buſineſs, what can become Chriſtians more, than to fall down before GOD, to thank and praiſe him for the Preſervation of the paſt Night, and to beg his Bleſſing upon the Buſineſs of the following Day, and his Protection to Body and Soul, amidſt the Dangers and Temptations of a wicked World? Again, in the EVENING, after they return from their worldly Buſineſs and Converſation, and before they go to Reſt, can any Thing be more proper for Devout and Serious Chriſtians, than humbly to acknowledge the Goodneſs of GOD, and to make Confeſſion of their own Sins and Unworthineſs; and then, upon their ſincere Repentance, and humble Truſt in his Mercy, to implore the Continuance of his Favour and Protection, eſpecially the following Night?

THEY who can live in the daily Neglect of ſo reaſonable a Service, and can lie down and riſe again without thinking of GOD, and go about the Buſineſs of their Lives, without imploring his Direction and Bleſ-

ſing; ſuch Perſons can have very little Religion, but may rather be ſaid to live *without GOD in the World.* By the Omiſſion of this Part of their Duty, it comes to paſs, that they ſeldom have it in their Minds, either that there is ſuch a Being as GOD, or that they live under his Providence, or that He has given them Laws to walk by, and will require an Account in another World how they have obſerved them. And as no Perſon, who has not theſe and the like Thoughts frequently upon his Mind, can be ſaid to think or live like a Chriſtian; ſo ſuch Thoughts can be very little upon the Mind of any Perſon, who lives in an habitual Neglect of this Duty of Morning and Evening Prayer. For if Men think not of theſe Things at the moſt ſeaſonable Times for it, *before* they begin their Work, and *after* they have ended it; it is not likely that they will fall into ſuch Thoughts in the *Midſt* of their Buſineſs or Pleaſures.

IT is to be feared, that there are too many Perſons and Families, who are ſunk into this unthinking State, and this habitual Forgetfulneſs of Almighty GOD: Which being a Condition ſo dangerous to their Souls, we, who have the Care of Souls, are bound to admoniſh them of their Danger, and to exhort

hort them earneſtly to the proper and effectual Remedy; which is, this daily addreſſing themſelves to GOD, and, as it were, converſing with him in Prayer. The Time it will take up, is very ſmall; but the Benefit which it will bring, is exceeding great; no leſs than the entitling ourſelves to the conſtant Aſſiſtance and Protection of GOD, and the keeping us in a daily Preparation for Heaven. And ſurely no Perſon, who calls himſelf a Chriſtian, and doth in any Degree deſire to live as becomes the Goſpel of CHRIST, can be unwilling to enter upon a Practice, which will be the Means of gaining ſuch valuable Beneſits to Body and Soul, eſpecially, when that which will procure theſe Beneſits, is a Work ſo eaſy and reaſonable, as the lifting up our Hearts to GOD for ſo ſhort a Space, *before* and *after* the Buſineſs of this World.

THEY have ſeen, by what has been hitherto ſaid of Family-Devotion, that this is a very *Reaſonable* and *Eaſy* Duty; and that the daily Neglect of it is the ready Way to loſe all Senſe of GOD and Religion. The Conſiderations which I ſhall add, as a farther Inducement to the daily Performance of it, will ſhew them, that it is not only a ſure Preſervative againſt that

Forgetfulneſs of Almighty GOD, but alſo an excellent Help towards their Growth and Improvement in Grace and Goodneſs.

To make them truly ſenſible of this, let them conſider the following Heads:

I. THE great Weakneſs and Infirmity of Body and Soul, and the manifold Dangers with which both are encompaſſed: That the Body is perpetually liable to Diſeaſes within, and Accidents without; and the Soul always beſet with the Temptations of the World, the Fleſh and the Devil. Now our only Security againſt theſe Dangers, is GOD's Protection to defend the Body, and his aſſiſting Grace to preſerve the Soul: And as there is no other Way to obtain his Protection and Aſſiſtance againſt theſe Dangers but our Prayers; ſo the Dangers being daily, our Prayers muſt be daily too.

AND the only ſure Way to keep up daily Devotion, is for every Family to fix and appoint for that End, the two moſt convenient Parts of the Day, namely, Morning and Evening. For except the Times of doing it be fixed and certain, the Duty will be either wholly neglected and forgotten, or at beſt, there will be many Pretences to omit it.

it. Whereas, when the Times of Prayer are ſettled in a Family, they are reckoned before-hand, and all other Buſineſs is laid and contrived accordingly; ſo that by a little Practice, Morning and Evening Prayer is accounted a neceſſary Part of the Buſineſs of the Day; and no more to be omitted or forgotten than the Proviſion for Food, Raiment, and other Conveniencies of Life. The Members of any Family, who have been thus accuſtomed to daily Prayer, as the only ſure Means of obtaining GOD's daily Bleſſing, will be afraid to lie down at Night, or go Abroad in the Morning, without firſt having made themſelves ſure of his Protection and Aſſiſtance, by joining with their Brethren in Prayer; or, where that cannot be conveniently done, by their own private Devotions; or by both, where there is Leiſure and Opportunity for both.

II. IT is a further Encouragement to the Beginning and carrying on this Godly Practiſe in Families, that our Saviour CHRIST has in an eſpecial Manner promiſed his Preſence with them. For, conſidering the Circumſtances of that Promiſe (in the xviiith of St. *Matth.* Verſe 19, 20.)

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it may be more ſtrictly and immediately applied to Family Prayers: *I ſay unto you, that if* two *of you ſhall agree on Earth, as touching any Thing that they ſhall ask, it ſhall be done for them of my Father which is in Heaven. For where* two *or* three *are gathered together in my Name, there am I in the Midſt of them.* Without doubt, CHRIST is ready to aſſiſt and anſwer the devout Prayers of good Men, in what Place, or at what Time ſoever they are made; but the joint Prayers of a Family muſt be yet more acceptable and more powerful, as they are ſent up with an Unity of Hearts and Souls; which is ſo becoming among Chriſtians, and eſpecially among Brethren and Relations, and is withal ſo pleaſing in the Sight of GOD.

III. THE Practice of daily Prayer, ſettles in Families a Face and Spirit of Religion; ſo as no Member thereof can wholly forget GOD and another World, while they are every Day reminded of both. By this, Children are trained from their Infancy to an Uſe and Habit of Devotion; and Servants are ſure of due Time and Opportunity to ſerve GOD every Day. For Fathers and Mothers, Maſters and Miſtreſſes, are enjoined by GOD to take Care

Care of the Souls, as well as the Bodies, of their Children and Servants; and as it is their Duty, ſo may it be their great Comfort, to afford them this daily Means of becoming and continuing the Servants and Children of God. Hereby they plant in their Hearts a true Senſe of Piety and Devotion; and this prepares and diſpoſes them, when themſelves come to be Parents and Governors, to train up their Children and Servants to the ſame Method of daily Devotion. And ſo, they who ſettle and keep up in their Families this Practice of Morning and Evening Prayer, take the true and effectual Way, both to preſerve in their own Houſes a Spirit of Piety and Religion, and alſo to convey that Religious Spirit to future Generations.

IV. DAILY Prayer in a Family is a great Check and Reſtraint upon any Member of it, who may be inclined to Sin and Vice. It makes him remember, whether he will or no, that there is a GOD, and another World, and that they who would be happy hereafter, muſt heartily uſe their own Endeavours, and beg the Aſſiſtance of Almighty GOD, that they may live ſober and religiouſly here. This is the great End and Deſign of all our Prayers; and

and though Persons who are viciously inclined, may not inwardly join with their Brethren in Prayer; yet if they be but present, they must often consider that what the rest are doing, is in order to a Life after this; and that they as well as their Brethren, have Souls to take Care of; and therefore that it cannot be safe for them to live in Sins, from which they hear their Fellow-Christians daily beseeching GOD to deliver them. Occasional Admonitions or Exhortations to this Purpose, may be easily forgotten and neglected by wicked Men; but when the Thoughts of another World are thus daily renewed upon their Minds, it must be a daily Check to their wicked Courses: And, I doubt not, but very many Persons of Evil and Debauch'd Inclinations, have not only been much reform'd, but have become virtuous and religious, by falling Providentially into such regular Families, as have kept up this most edifying and godly Exercise of daily Prayer.

V. As the Practice of daily Prayer in Families, is the best Way to restrain and reform the bad Members of it; so is it an excellent Means to make such of them as are well disposed to persevere in their good

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Diſpoſition and to grow daily in Grace, and in Purity of Heart and Affection, and to fit them more and more for the Spiritual Exerciſes of the next Life. The Heart of Man is by Nature Carnal and Earthly, ſet upon the Buſineſs of this World, and not eaſily brought to take Delight in the Things of the next. The Work therefore which GOD hath appointed Chriſtians in this World is to purify their Hearts, and to bring them to a Love of Heavenly Things. And for the Effecting of this, he hath enjoin'd the Exerciſe of ſeveral Means, as Reading, Meditation, and the like; but of thoſe Means, none is more effectual for that End, than this of daily Prayer. It is the only Way we have of prevailing with GOD to ſend his Holy Spirit into our Hearts; and the daily Practice and Uſe of lifting up our Hearts to GOD in Prayer, adds Wings to the Soul, and makes it move towards Heaven every Day more naturally and eaſily, and brings it to a nearer Acquaintance with GOD, and a better Taſte and Reliſh of that Spiritual Life, which every one that deſires Heaven, muſt deſire, and be prepared to live hereafter. To which I may add, that daily Prayer, as it contains in it a ſolemn Confeſſion of Sins, gives good Chriſtians an Oppor-

Opportunity, or rather puts them under a Neceſſity of examining their Lives Day by Day, and of repenting immediately of the Sins they commit; and by this daily Confeſſion and Repentance, they are kept in a right Knowledge of their Spiritual Eſtate, and have their Accounts in Readineſs whenever GOD ſhall pleaſe to call for them. Thus, all Families, who have ſettled and kept up this daily Correſpondence with GOD in Prayer, do truly *walk with* GOD, and are conſtantly advancing towards Heaven in the Way that he hath appointed; and are making themſelves every Day more fit for his immediate Preſence there.

VI. WHERE daily Prayer is practiſed in any Family, the Members of it are *accuſtomed* to Devotion, and by their appearing ſo frequently before GOD in a ſmall Congregation, can much more readily frame their Hearts to due Attention and Zeal, when they come to appear before him in a larger, I mean, at the Publick Service of the Church; where Chriſtians meet, with mutual Unity of Hearts, to ſend up their joint Prayers to GOD for the common Neceſſities of one another. For it is the ſame Spirit of Devotion, that makes

makes us fit both for Publick and Private Prayer; and unleſs that Spirit be kept up by daily Exerciſe, it will of Courſe decay and languiſh; and when Chriſtians come to Church after a Diſuſe of Devotion for ſome Days together, they are in a Manner Strangers to the Work they are going about; and their Hearts having been employed only about Earthly Things, are not readily and eaſily raiſed up to Heaven. Which is the true Cauſe of that Coldneſs, Indifference, and Wandering of Thoughts and Eyes, that is ſo common in the Publick Worſhip of God: And I doubt it is generally true, that they who uſe no Devotion at Home, bring very little to the Church. But now the Uſe and Practice of daily Prayer at Home, trains up Chriſtians to a Spirit and Habit of Devotion, and keeps their Minds bent towards God and heavenly Things; which by frequent Exerciſe being made familiar to their Thoughts, their Hearts and Affections, are eaſily framed and compoſed to ſuch Attention, Devotion, and Zeal, as becomes the Houſe of God; and they are alſo armed againſt the Temptations to Wandering, and thoſe Diſturbances to Devotion which frequently happen in great and publick Congregations.

THE Sum of this Exhortation to Family Prayer is thus. Prayer to Almighty GOD is an Ordinance which he has appointed, as the Condition of having our Wants ſupplied, and as one ſpecial Mean of keeping up in our Hearts a conſtant Senſe of his Majeſty and Goodneſs, and thereby a due Fear, and Love, and Reverence of his Name. Our Wants are daily, and the Temptations which draw our Hearts from GOD to the Things of this World, are alſo daily; and upon both theſe Accounts our Prayers ought alſo to be daily. This hath been the Practiſe of Good and Religious Men in all Ages; and they ſcarce deſerve the Name of Chriſtians, who can lie down to Reſt, without praying for the Protection of GOD; and riſe again, without thanking him for that Protection, and begging his Bleſſing upon themſelves and their Undertakings the following Day. The only Way to have this ſurely and effectually done by Chriſtians, is to ſettle the Practiſe of Morning and Evening Prayer in their Families; the Members of which, at leaſt the greateſt Part of them, are ſuppoſed ordinarily to be together at thoſe two Seaſons. When the Times of Prayer are thus ſettled, it will be accounted Part of the Buſineſs of the Day; and as the Neglect of it occaſions an habitual Forgetfulneſs of GOD

God and the Things of another Life, ſo the daily Practice of it keeps up in Families a Face and Spirit of Religion, and is the beſt Means that Fathers and Mothers, Maſters and Miſtreſſes can uſe, to preſerve in themſelves, their Children, and Servants, ſuch a Religious and Heavenly Frame of Soul, as becomes a Society of Chriſtians. It brings down upon Families the Bleſſing of God, and Supplies of Grace to aſſiſt and direct thoſe Members who heartily join with their Brethren in daily Prayer for it. And if there be any Members of the Family who are wicked, or ill-diſpoſed, this Practiſe is the Way to reclaim them and make them good, by bringing to their Minds every Day the Thoughts of God and another World, and keeping their Conſciences awake, which would otherwiſe be lulled aſleep in Sin and Security. As to thoſe of a Family who are good, and deſirous to grow every Day better, the Practice of daily Prayer makes them fixed and ſtedfaſt in their religious Diſpoſitions, and keeps their Souls bent towards Heaven and Heavenly Things, and raiſes them more and more to ſuch a Spirit of Devotion, as both prepares them, while they live, to be fervent and zealous amongſt the Faithful in the publick Service of God's Church; and when they come to die, fits them for ſpiri-

tual Joys and Exerciſes among the Bleſſed in Heaven.

May all they for whoſe Uſe this Exhortation to Family Prayer is deſigned, read it ſeriouſly, and lay it to Heart as a Matter that nearly concerns every Chriſtian; and may as many of them as have not already ſetled this Godly Practice in their Families, reſolve that they will no longer neglect a Duty, which will ſo much forward their own Salvation, and is ſuch an excellent Means of training up their Children and Servants to Piety and Religion.

Morning Prayer:

To be uſed in

ALL FAMILIES.

The Maſter or Miſtreſs having called together as many of the Family as can conveniently be preſent; let one of them, or any other whom they ſhall think moſt proper, ſay as follows; all kneeling.

Acknowledgement of GOD's Mercy and Preſervation, eſpecially the Night paſt.

ALmighty and Everlaſting GOD, in whom we live and move, and have our Being, and whoſe Mercy

is over all thy Works: We thy needy Creatures in a thankful Senſe of thy good Providence over us, render Thee our humbleſt Praiſes for thy Preſervation of us from the Beginning of our Lives to this Day. Bleſſed be thy Holy Name for the continual Protection of thy Hand, by which we have been defended amidſt the Changes and Chances of this mortal Life, and kept and delivered from innumerable Dangers, and particularly from the Terrors and evil Accidents of the paſt Night. To thy watchful Providence we wholly owe it, [* that no Diſturbance hath come nigh us or our Dwelling, but that we have enjoy'd quiet and refreſhing Sleep, and are brought in Safety to the Beginning of this Day.] For theſe and all thy other Mercies, our Souls do bleſs and magnify thy Glorious Name; humbly beſeeching Thee to ac-

[* When Diſturbances of any Kind befal a Family, inſtead of this, ſay, *that notwithſtanding our Fears and Dangers, we are brought in Safety to the Beginning of this Day.*]

accept this our Morning Sacrifice of Praiſe and Thankſgiving, for his Sake, who lay down in the Grave, and roſe again for us, thy Son our Saviour Jeſus Chriſt. *Amen.*

Dedication of Soul and Body to God's Service, with a Reſolution to be growing daily in Goodneſs.

AND ſince it is of thy Mercy, O Gracious Father, that another Day is added to our Lives; we here dedicate both our Souls and Bodies to Thee and thy Service, to promote thy Glory and our own Salvation, in a ſober, righteous, and godly Life. We renounce the Devil and all his Works, the Vanities of this wicked World, and all the ſinful Luſts of the Fleſh; deſiring nothing ſo much as to ſerve Thee faithfully all the Days of our Life. And we ſincerely reſolve ſo to improve the Time which thou ſhalt be pleaſed to grant us in this World, that we may every Day become better Chriſtians, and perſevere in Holineſs and Righteouſneſs unto the End. In which Reſolutions

lutions do Thou, O merciful God, confirm and ſtrengthen us; and eſpecially this Day keep it ſtedfaſtly in the Purpoſe of our Hearts to perform them, that as we grow in Age, we may grow in Grace, and in the Knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jeſus Chriſt. *Amen.*

For Grace to enable us to perform that Reſolution.

BUT, Lord, Thou knoweſt the Weakneſs and Corruption of our Nature, and the manifold Temptations that we daily meet with; We therefore humbly beſeech Thee to have Compaſſion upon our Infirmities, and to give us the conſtant Aſſiſtance of thy Holy Spirit; that we may be effectually reſtrained from Sin, and excited to our Duty. And when thou ſeeſt us giving Way to any Temptation, ſuffer us not to be tempted above that we are able, but ſtretch out thy helping Hand to ſave and deliver us. Imprint upon our Hearts ſuch a Dread of thy Judgments, and ſuch a grateful Senſe of thy Goodneſs to us, as may make us both afraid and aſhamed to offend

ſend Thee; and, above all, keep up in our Minds a lively Remembrance of that great Day, in which we muſt give a ſtrict Account of our Thoughts, Words, and Actions, and, according to the Works done in the Body, be eternally rewarded or puniſhed by Him, whom thou haſt appointed Judge of Quick and Dead, thy Son Jeſus Chriſt our Lord. *Amen.*

For Grace to guide and keep us the following Day.

IN particular, that we may then be able to give Account of this Day; grant us Grace to have Thee and thy Law before our Eyes, that we may walk in it according to thy Will, with Watchfulneſs and Circumſpection. Keep us ſober and temperate in our Meats and Drinks, and diligent in the ſeveral Callings and Profeſſions which thy Providence hath appointed us. Grant us Patience under any Affliction Thou ſhalt ſee fit to lay upon us, and Minds always contented with our preſent Condition. Give us Grace to be juſt and upright in all our Dealings, quiet

quiet and peaceable among our Neighbours, full of Compaſſion toward the Needy and Afflicted, and ever ready to do Good to all Men, according to the Abilities and Opportunities which thou ſhalt give us. That ſo walking faithfully before Thee all our Days, and being found watching whenever our appointed Time ſhall come, we may, from a Life of Righteouſneſs, be tranſlated to a Life of Glory, through the Merits and Mediation of Jeſus Chriſt our only Saviour and Redeemer. *Amen.*

AND

[* AND now we are entering upon the Buſineſs of the ſeveral Stations wherein thy Providence hath placed us, we humbly beg thy Bleſſing this Day upon our honeſt Deſigns and Undertakings. Direct us in all our Ways, and proſper the Works of our Hands:] And as we deſire to walk in a conſtant Senſe of thy All-ſeeing Providence; ſo let the ſame good Providence watch over us, and preſerve our Going-out, and our Coming-in. Defend us from all Dangers and Adverſities, and be graciouſly pleaſed to take us, and all Things belonging to us, into thy Fatherly Care and Protection. Theſe Things, O Lord, and

For God's Bleſſing upon the Buſineſs of the Day.

* *On Sunday Morning, inſtead of this ſay,* And now we are going to the Place of thy publick Worſhip, we beſeech Thee let thy Holy Spirit accompany us, and make us Devout, Serious, and Attentive, Raiſe our Minds from the Thoughts of this World, in the Conſideration of the next, that we may join fervently in the Prayers and Praiſes of thy Church, and liſten to our Duty with honeſt Hearts, in order to practiſe it. And give us Grace to dedicate this Day, as Thou haſt appointed us, to thy Service, and the Care of our Souls. Direct us in all our Ways, and guide our Feet into thy Paths,

and whatever elſe Thou ſhalt ſee neceſſary and convenient, either for our Souls, or Bodies, or Eſtates, we humbly beg of Thee, for the Sake of thy Son Jeſus Chriſt, in whoſe Name and Words we conclude our imperfect Prayers.

Our Father which art in Heaven; Hallowed be thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy Will be done in Earth, as it is in Heaven. Give us this Day our daily Bread: and forgive us our Treſpaſſes, as we forgive them that Treſpaſs againſt us. And lead us not into Temptation, but deliver us from Evil. For thine is the Kingdom, the Power, and the Glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

HEADS

Evening Prayer:

To be uſed in

ALL FAMILIES.

The Family begin together, a little before Bed-time, let the Maſter or Miſtreſs, or any other whom they ſhall think moſt proper, ſay as follows; all kneeling.

Confeſſion of Sins, with a Prayer for Contrition and Pardon.

MOST Gracious and Merciful GOD, who art of purer Eyes than to behold Iniquity, and haſt promiſed Mercy and Forgiveneſs to all them who confeſs and forſake their Sins;

We come before Thee in an humble Senſe of our own Unworthineſs, acknowledging our manifold Tranſgreſſions of thy righteous Laws, in Thought, Word, and Deed. We have every Day been doing thoſe Things which Thou haſt forbidden, and leaving undone the Things which Thou haſt commanded; ſo that when we look back upon our paſt Lives, and remember that Thou art privy to our moſt ſecret Sins, we are afraid of thy Judgments, and aſhamed to lift up our Eyes unto Thee. * But O Gracious Father, who deſireſt not the Death of a Sinner, look upon us, we beſeech Thee, in thy Son Jeſus Chriſt, and for the Merits of his Sufferings be Thou merciful to our Sins. Make us deeply ſenſible of the great Evil of them, and work in us a hearty Contrition, and let the Remembrance of them be more grievous and afflicting to us, than of any other Evil whatſoever; That we worthily lamenting our Tranſgreſſions, and

* Here let him who reads, make a ſhort Pauſe, that every one may ſecretly confeſs the Sins and Failings of that Day.

and being brought to a Hatred of our Sins, and a hearty Repentance, may obtain Forgiveneſs at thy Hands, who art ever ready to receive humble and penitent Sinners; for the Sake of thy Son Jeſus Chriſt our only Saviour and Redeemer. *Amen.*

Prayer for Grace to reform and grow better.

AND leſt, thro' our own Frailty, or the Temptations that encompaſs us, we be drawn again to our former Sins; vouchſafe us, we beſeech Thee, the Direction and Aſſiſtance of thy Holy Spirit; that as Thou haſt put into our Hearts theſe Deſires and Reſolutions of Amendment, ſo by the Help of thy Grace we may bring the ſame to good Effect, in a Godly, Righteous, and ſober Life. Reform whatever Thou findeſt amiſs in the Temper and Diſpoſition of our Souls; that no unclean Thoughts, unlawful Deſigns, or inordinate Deſires, may reſt there. Purge our Hearts from Envy, Hatred, and Malice, that we may never ſuffer the Sun to go down

upon our Wrath, but may always go to our Reſt in Peace, Charity and Good-will, with a Conſcience void of Offence towards Thee, and towards Men: That ſo our Hearts being a fit Habitation for thy Holy Spirit, he may continually dwell therein; and we, whether we wake or ſleep, may be under his bleſſed Protection, and have our whole Spirit, and Soul, and Body, preſerved pure and blameleſs unto the Coming of our Lord and Saviour Jeſus Chriſt. *Amen.*

The Interceſſion general and particular.

WITH theſe Prayers in Behalf of ourſelves, accept, O Lord, as the Teſtimony of our Love and Charity, our hearty Interceſſions for all Mankind. Let the Light of thy Goſpel ſhine upon all Nations; and may as many as have already heard and received it, live as becomes it. Be more eſpecially gracious to the Church and Nation whereunto we belong. Bleſs the King and all who by thy Providence have Authority

rity under him; ſo rule their Hearts, and ſtrengthen their Hands, that they may neither want Will nor Power to puniſh Wickedneſs and Vice, and to maintain thy true Religion among us. Send down thy Bleſſings, temporal and ſpiritual, upon all our Relations, Friends and Neighbours. Reward all that have done us Good, and pardon all thoſe who have done, or wiſh us Evil, and give them Repentance and better Minds. Be merciful to all who are in any Trouble or Affliction of Mind, Body, or Eſtate; and do Thou, the God of Pity and Compaſſion, adminiſter to every one Help and Comfort, according to their ſeveral Neceſſities; for his Sake, who went about doing Good to the Souls and Bodies of Men, thy Son our Saviour Jeſus Chriſt. *Amen.*

The Thankſgiving, general and particular.

TO our Prayers and Interceſſions for future Bleſſings, we add our unfeigned Thanks for all thy Mercies which from Time to Time thou haſt vouchſafed us; for our Being,

our Reaſon, and all other Endowments and Faculties of Soul and Body: For our Health, Friends, Food, and Rayment, and all the other Comforts and Conveniencies of Life. Above all, we adore thy tender Mercy and Compaſſion to us and all Mankind, in ſending thy only Son into the World, to redeem us from Sin and eternal Death, and in giving us the Knowledge and Senſe of our Duty towards Thee. We bleſs Thee for thy Patience with us, notwithſtanding our many and great Provocations; for all the Directions, Aſſiſtances and Comforts of thy holy Spirit; for thy continual Care and watchful Providence over us, through the whole Courſe of our Lives; and particularly for the Mercies and Benefits of the paſt Day: Beſeeching Thee to continue theſe thy Bleſſings to us, and to give us Grace to ſhew our Senſe of them, and all thy other Mercies, in a ſincere Obedience to his Laws, thro' whoſe Merits and Interceſſion we receive them all, thy Son our Saviour Jeſus Chriſt. *Amen.*

IN

Prayer for God's Protection the following Night.

IN a particular Manner we beſeech Thee to continue thy Gracious Protection to us this Night. Into thy Hand we commend our Souls and Bodies, our Subſtance, Dwelling, and all Things that belong to us. Do Thou, our gracious God, who neither ſlumbereſt nor ſleepeſt, be pleaſed to take both us and them this Night into thy eſpecial Care and Protection. Defend us from all Dangers and Miſchiefs, and from the Dread and Fear of them; that we may enjoy ſuch quiet and refreſhing Sleep as may fit us for the Duties of the following Day. And, Lord, make us ever mindful of that Time when we ſhall lie down in the Duſt; and grant us Grace always to live in ſuch a State, that we may never be afraid to die; but that whether we live, we may live unto Thee; or whether we die, we may die unto Thee; ſo that living and Dying we may be thine, through the Merits and Satisfaction of thy Son Chriſt Jeſus, in whoſe Name

and

and Words we conclude our imperfect Prayers.

Our Father which art in Heaven, Hallowed be thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy Will be done in Earth, as it is in Heaven, Give us this Day our daily Bread. And forgive us our Treſpaſſes, as we forgive them that Treſpaſs againſt us. And lead us not into Temptation, but deliver us from Evil. For thine is the Kingdom, the Power, and the Glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Morning Prayer:

To be uſed, as there is Occaſion, by one Perſon in private.

Acknowledgement of GOD's Mercy and Preſervation, eſpecially in the Night paſt.

ALmighty and Everlaſting GOD, in whom I live and move, and have my Being, and whoſe Mercy is over all thy Works: I thy needy Creature in a thankful Senſe of thy good Providence over me, render Thee my humbleſt Praiſes for thy Preſervation of me from the Beginning of my Live to this Day. Bleſſed be thy Holy Name for the continual Protection of thy Hand, by which I have been defended amidſt the Changes

Changes and Chances of this mortal Life, and kept and delivered from innumerable Dangers, and particularly from the Terrors and evil Accidents of the paſt Night. To thy watchful Providence I wholly owe it, [* that no Diſturbance hath come nigh me, or my Dwelling, but that I have enjoy'd quiet and refreſhing Sleep, and am brought in Safety to the Beginning of this Day.] For theſe and all thy other Mercies, my Soul doth bleſs and magnify thy Glorious Name; humbly beſeeching Thee to accept this my Morning Sacrifice of Praiſe and Thankſgiving, for his Sake, who lay down in the Grave, and roſe again for me, thy Son, my only Saviour Jeſus Chriſt. *Amen.*

* When Diſturbances of any Kind ſhall happen, inſtead of this, ſay, [*that notwithſtanding my Fear and Danger, I am brought in Safety to the Beginning of this Day.*]

AND

Dedication of Soul and Body to God's Service, with a Reſolution to be growing daily in Goodneſs.

AND ſince it is of thy Mercy, O Gracious Father, that another Day is added to my Life; I here dedicate both my Soul and Body to Thee and thy Service, to promote thy Glory and my own Salvation, in a ſober, righteous, and godly Life. I renounce the Devil and all his Works, the Vanities of this wicked World, and all the ſinful Luſts of the Fleſh; deſiring nothing ſo much as to ſerve Thee faithfully all the Days of my Life. And I ſincerely reſolve ſo to improve the Time which thou ſhalt be pleaſed to grant me in this World, that I may every Day become a better Chriſtian, and perſevere in Holineſs and Righteouſneſs unto the End. In which Reſolutions do Thou, O merciful God, confirm and ſtrengthen me; and eſpecially this Day keep it ſtedfaſtly in the Purpoſe of my Heart to perform them, that as I grow in Age, I may grow in

in Grace, and in the Knowledge of my Lord and Saviour Jeſus Chriſt. *Amen.*

For Grace to enable me to perform that Reſolution.

BUT, Lord, Thou knoweſt the Weakneſs and Corruption of my Nature, and the manifold Temptations which I daily meet with; I therefore humbly beſeech Thee to have Compaſſion upon my Infirmities, and to give me the conſtant Aſſiſtance of thy Holy Spirit; that I may be effectually reſtrained from Sin, and excited to my Duty. And when thou ſeeſt me giving Way to any Temptation, ſuffer me not to be tempted above that I am able, but ſtretch out thy helping Hand to ſave and deliver me. Imprint upon my Heart ſuch a Dread of thy Judgments, and ſuch a Love of thy Goodneſs towards me, as may make me both afraid and aſhamed to offend Thee; and, above all, keep up in my Mind a lively Remembrance of that great Day, in which I muſt give a ſtrict Account of my Thoughts, Words, and Actions, and, according to

to the Works done in the Body, be eternally rewarded or puniſhed by Him, whom thou haſt appointed Judge of Quick and Dead, thy Son Jeſus Chriſt our Lord. *Amen.*

For Grace to guide and keep me the following Day.

IN particular, that I may then be able to give Account of this Day; grant me Grace to have Thee and thy Law before my Eyes, that I may walk in it according to thy Will, with Watchfulneſs and Circumſpection. Keep me ſober and temperate in my Meat and Drink, and diligent in the Calling and Profeſſion which thy Providence hath appointed me. Grant me Patience under any Affliction Thou ſhalt ſee fit to lay upon me, and a Mind always contented with my preſent Condition. Give me Grace to be juſt and upright in all my Dealings, quiet and peaceable among my Neighbours, full of Compaſſion towards the Needy and Afflicted, and ever ready to do Good to all Men, according to the Abilities and Opportunities which thou

ſhalt give me: That ſo walking faithfully before Thee all my Days, and being found watching whenever my appointed Time ſhall come, I may, from a Life of Righteouſneſs, be tranſlated to a Life of Glory, through the Merits and Mediation of Jeſus Chriſt my only Saviour and Redeemer. *Amen.*

AND

[* AND now I am entering upon the Business of the Stations wherein thy Providence hath placed me, I humbly beg thy Blessing this Day upon my honest Designs and Undertakings. Direct me in all my Ways, and prosper the Works of my Hands:] And as I desire to walk in a constant Sense of thy All-seeing Providence; so let the same good Providence watch over me, and preserve my Going-out, and my Coming-in. Defend me from all Dangers and Adversities, and be graciously pleased to take me, and all Things belonging to me, into thy Fatherly Care and Protection. These Things, O Lord,

For God's Blessing upon the Business of the Day.

* *On Sunday Morning, instead of this Day.* And now I am going to the Place of thy publick Worship, I beseech Thee let thy Holy Spirit accompany me, and make me Devout, Serious, and Attentive; Raise my Mind from the Thoughts of this World, in the Consideration of the next, that I may join fervently in the Prayers and Praises of thy Church, and listen to my Duty with an honest Heart, in order to practise it. And give me Grace to dedicate this Day, as Thou hast appointed me, to thy Service, and the Care of my Soul. Direct me in all my Ways, and guide my Feet into thy Paths.]

and whatever elſe Thou ſhalt ſee neceſſary and convenient, either for my Soul, my Body, or Eſtate, I humbly beg of Thee, for the Sake of thy Son Jeſus Chriſt, in whoſe Name and Words I conclude my imperfect Prayers.

Our Father which art in Heaven; Hallowed be thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy Will be done in Earth, as it is in Heaven. Give us this Day our daily Bread: and forgive us our Treſpaſſes, as we forgive them that Treſpaſs againſt us. And lead us not into Temptation, but deliver us from Evil. For thine is the Kingdom, the Power, and the Glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Evening

Evening Prayer:

To be uſed, as there is Occaſion, by one Perſon in private.

Confeſſion of Sins, with a Prayer for Contrition and Pardon.

MOST Gracious and Merciful GOD, who art of purer Eyes than to behold Iniquity, and haſt promiſed Mercy and Forgiveneſs to all them who confeſs and forſake their Sins; I come before Thee in an humble Senſe of my own Unworthineſs, acknowledging my manifold Tranſgreſſions of thy righteous Laws, in Thought, Word, and Deed. I have every Day been doing thoſe Things which Thou haſt forbidden, and leaving undone the Things which Thou haſt commanded; ſo that when I look

back upon my paſt Live, and remember that Thou art privy to my moſt ſecret Sins, I am afraid of thy Judgments, and aſhamed to lift up my Eyes unto Thee.

* Here make a particular Confeſſion of the Sins and Failings of the paſt Day.

* But O Gracious Father, who deſireſt not the Death of a Sinner, look upon me, I beſeech Thee, in thy Son Jeſus Chriſt, and for the Merits of his Sufferings be Thou merciful to my Sins. Make me deeply ſenſible of the great Evil of them, and work in me a hearty Contrition, and let the Remembrance of them be more grievous and afflicting to me, than of any other Evil whatſoever; That I worthily lamenting my Tranſgreſſions, and being brought to a Hatred of my Sins, and a hearty Repentance, may obtain Forgiveneſs at thy Hands, who art ever ready to receive humble and penitent Sinners; for the Sake of thy Son Jeſus Chriſt my only Saviour and Redeemer. *Amen.*

AND

Prayer for Grace to reform and grow better.

AND leſt, thro' my own Frailty, or the Temptations that encompaſs me, I be drawn again to my former Sins; vouchſafe me, I beſeech Thee, the Direction and Aſſiſtance of thy Holy Spirit; that as Thou haſt put into my Heart theſe Deſires and Reſolutions of Amendment, ſo by the Help of thy Grace I may bring the ſame to good Effect, in a Godly, Righteous, and ſober Life. Reform whatever Thou findeſt amiſs in the Temper and Diſpoſition of my Soul; that no unclean Thoughts, unlawful Deſigns, or inordinate Deſires, may reſt there. Purge my Heart from Envy, Hatred, and Malice, that I may never ſuffer the Sun to go down upon my Wrath, but may always go to my Reſt in Peace, Charity and Good-will, with a Conſcience void of Offence towards Thee, and towards Men: That ſo my Heart being a fit Habitation for thy Holy Spirit, he may continually dwell therein; and I, whether

whether I wake or ſleep, may be under his bleſſed Protection, and have my whole Spirit, and Soul, and Body, preſerved pure and blameleſs unto the Coming of my Lord and Saviour Jeſus Chriſt. *Amen.*

The Interceſſion general and particular.

WITH theſe Prayers in Behalf of myſelf, accept, O Lord, as the Teſtimony of my Love and Charity, my hearty Interceſſions for all Mankind. Let the Light of thy Goſpel ſhine upon all Nations; and may as many as have already heard and received it, live as becomes it. Be more eſpecially gracious to the Church and Nation whereunto I belong. Bleſs the King and all who by thy Providence have Authority under him; ſo rule their Hearts, and ſtrengthen their Hands, that they may neither want Will nor Power to puniſh Wickedneſs and Vice, and to maintain thy true Religion among us. Send down thy Bleſſings, temporal and ſpiritual, upon all my Relations, Friends and

and Neighbours. Reward all that have done me Good, and pardon all thoſe who have done, or wiſh me Evil, and give them Repentance and better Minds. Be merciful to all who are in any Trouble or Affliction of Mind, Body, or Eſtate; and do Thou, the God of Pity and Compaſſion, adminiſter to every one Help and Comfort, according to their ſeveral Neceſſities; for his Sake, who went about doing Good to the Souls and Bodies of Men, thy Son my Saviour Jeſus Chriſt. *Amen.*

The Thankſgiving, general and particular.

TO my Prayers and Interceſſions for future Bleſſings, I add my unfeigned Thanks for all thy Mercies which from Time to Time thou haſt vouchſafed me; for my Being, my Reaſon, and all other Endowments and Faculties of Soul and Body: For my Health, Friends, Food, and Rayment, and all the other Comforts and Conveniencies of Life. Above all, I adore thy tender Mercy and Compaſſion to me and all Mankind, in ſending

ing thy only Son into the World, to redeem me from Sin and eternal Death, and in giving me the Knowledge and Senſe of my Duty towards Thee. I bleſs Thee for thy Patience with me, notwithſtanding my many and great Provocations; for all the Directions, Aſſiſtances and Comforts of thy holy Spirit; for thy continual Care and watchful Providence over me, through the whole Courſe of my Live; and particularly for the Mercies and Benefits of the paſt Day: Beſeeching Thee to continue theſe thy Bleſſings to me, and to give me Grace to ſhew my Senſe of them, and all thy other Mercies, in a ſincere Obedience to his Laws, thro' whoſe Merits and Interceſſion I receive them all, thy Son my Saviour Jeſus Chriſt. *Amen.*

Prayer for God's Protection the following Night.

IN a particular Manner I beſeech Thee to continue thy Gracious Protection to me this Night. Into thy Hand I commend my Soul and Body, my Subſtance, Dwelling, and

and all Things that belong to me. Do Thou, O gracious God, who neither ſlumbereſt nor ſleepeſt, be pleaſed to take both me and them this Night into thy eſpecial Care and Protection. Defend me from all Dangers and Miſchiefs, and from the Dread and Fear of them; that I may enjoy ſuch quiet and refreſhing Sleep as may fit me for the Duties of the following Day. And, Lord, make me ever mindful of that Time when I ſhall lie down in the Duſt; and grant me Grace always to live in ſuch a State, that I may never be afraid to die; but that whether I live, I may live unto Thee; or whether I die, I may die unto Thee; ſo that living and Dying I may be thine, through the Merits and Satisfaction of thy Son Chriſt Jeſus, in whoſe Name and Words I conclude my imperfect Prayers.

Our Father which art in Heaven, Hallowed be thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy Will be done in Earth, as it is in Heaven. Give us this

Day

Day our daily Bread. And forgive us our Treſpaſſes, as we forgive them that Treſpaſs againſt us. And lead us not into Temptation, but deliver us from Evil. For thine is the Kingdom, the Power, and the Glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

PRAYERS

PRAYERS
FOR
MORNING and EVENING,

Suited to the Condition of CHILDREN, and to be ſaid by them in Private; eſpecially when they cannot be preſent at the *Publick* or *Family* Prayers.

MORNING PRAYER.

When you riſe out of Bed in the Morning, ſay,

I laid me down and ſlept, and roſe up again, for the Lord ſuſtained me. *Pſal.* iii. 5.

When you have put on your Cloaths, ſay the following Prayer.

O Almighty God, who madeſt and governeſt all Things in Heaven and Earth, and whoſe Mercy is over all

thy Works; I give Thee humble Thanks for that Thou haſt delivered me from the Perils and Dangers of the paſt Night, and brought me ſafely to the Beginning of this Day. Protect me in it, I beſeech Thee, by thy good Providence, and give me Grace to be diligent in my Buſineſs, and dutiful and obedient to my Parents and Governors. Preſerve me from Sickneſs and Dangers, and all evil Accidents, but eſpecially from Sin and Vice, and from the Snares and Temptations of profane Company and evil Examples. Keep up in me an awful Reverence of Thee and thy Name, that I may at all Times behave myſelf in the Holy Offices of Religion with Seriouſneſs and Attention, and carefully abſtain from Vanity and Profaneneſs of all Kinds. Imprint upon my Mind ſuch a Senſe and Fear of thy All-ſeeing Eye, as may keep me from Faſhood and Lying, and every evil Way; remembering that Thou beholdeſt the moſt ſecret Thoughts and Actions of my Heart and Life. That walking always in thy Fear, and being pro-

protected by thy good Providence both in Body and Soul, I may evermore ſerve and pleaſe Thee; and as I grow in Age, may alſo grow in Grace and Goodneſs. Grant this, O merciful Father, for the Sake of thy Son Jeſus Chriſt, my only Mediator and Advocate. *Amen.*

EVENING PRAYER.

ALmighty God, in whom I live, and move, and have my Being, and to whoſe gracious Providence over me, I owe all the Bleſſings and Benefits which I enjoy; I give Thee humble Thanks for thy Preſervation of me, and for all thy other Mercies towards me, from the Beginning of my Life to this Day; Beſeeching thee to

pardon all the Sins and Failings by which I have at any Time offended Thee, and to give me Grace to avoid them for the Time to come. I thank Thee more eſpecially for the Bleſſing which Thou haſt vouchſafed me, of a pious and virtuous Education; and I pray Thee to make me ſenſible of the great Benefit of it, and careful to improve it, in a ſober, ſerious, and regular Life, that ſo I may lay a ſure Foundation for my own Happineſs, and be a faithful Servant to Thee, and a Comfort* to my *dear Parents*, whom I beſeech Thee evermore to bleſs and reward for all their Care and Love towards me. I thank Thee, in particular, for thy Preſervation of me throughout the paſt Day, and beſeech Thee to continue thy gracious Protection to me this Night, and to give me ſuch quiet and refreſhing Sleep, as may fit me for the Duties of the following Day. All which I beg of Thee, for the Sake of thy Son Jeſus Chriſt,

* To my dear Father or Mother, if *one* be dead; *or*, To my Relations and Governors, if the Parents be both dead.

Chriſt, my bleſſed Saviour and Redeemer. *Amen.*

Our Father which art in Heaven; Hallowed be thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy Will be done in Earth, as it is in Heaven. Give us this Day our daily Bread: and forgive us our Treſpaſſes, as we forgive them that Treſpaſs againſt us. And lead us not into Temptation, but deliver us from Evil. For thine is the Kingdom, the Power, and the Glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

When you lie down in Bed, ſay,

I will lay me down in Peace, and take my Reſt, for it is Thou Lord only that makeſt me dwell in Safety, *Pſal.* iv. 8.

PRAYERS
FOR
MORNING and EVENING.

Suited to the Condition of SERVANTS, and to be ſaid by them in Private; eſpecially when they cannot be preſent at the *Publick* or *Family* Prayers.

MORNING PRAYER.

When you riſe out of Bed in the Morning, ſay,

I laid me down and ſlept, and roſe up again, for the Lord ſuſtained me. *Pſal.* iii. 5.

When you have put on your Cloaths, ſay the following Prayer.

ALmighty and Everlaſting God, in whom I live and move, and have my Being, and whoſe Mercy is over all

all thy Works; I render Thee my humble Thanks for thy Preſervation of me from the Beginning of my Life to this Time. In particular, I thank Thee for that thou haſt protected me from the Perils and Dangers of the Night paſt, and haſt given me quiet and comfortable Reſt, and brought me ſafely to the Beginning of this Day. Let the ſame good Providence ſtill watch over me, and preſerve my Going-out and my Coming-in; that I may be defended from all Dangers and Miſchiefs, and from the Temptations of the World, the Fleſh, and the Devil. Give me Grace to behave myſelf with Sobriety, Diligence, and Honeſty, in the Buſineſs of my Station, and with Duty and Submiſſion to thoſe whom thou haſt ſet over me; and to deſire and endeavour to live in Peace and Love with my Fellow-Servants. Preſerve in me a ſtrict Regard to Truth and Sincerity in all my Words and Actions, and let no Fear of Puniſhment or Diſpleaſure from Men, ever make me tranſgreſs my Duty to thee. And to the End I

may

may walk in thy Fear this Day, and all the Days of my Life; keep up in my Mind a due Senſe and Reverence of thy All-ſeeing Eye, and a lively Remembrance of that great Day in which I muſt give a ſtrict Account of my Thoughts, Words and Actions, and according to the Works done in my Body, be ſentenced to Happineſs or Miſery, to all Eternity. Grant this, O Father, for the Sake of thy Son Jeſus Chriſt, my bleſſed Saviour and Redeemer. *Amen.*

EVENING PRAYER.

MOST gracious God, who by thy wiſe Providence haſt appointed to Mankind their ſeveral Stations and Offices in this Life, I acknowledge thy Wiſdom

Wiſdom and Goodneſs in this and all thy other Diſpenſations; deſiring in all Things to pay a ready and chearful Submiſſion to thy holy Will. To this End, endue me with ſuch a Spirit of Humility, Patience, and Contentment, as is ſuitable to the Condition in which thy Providence hath placed me. Bleſs me with Health of Body, and Comfort of Mind, that I may perform the Offices which belong to me with Chearfulneſs and Reſignation; doing my Duty as unto Thee, and not only unto Men, and reſting upon thy gracious Promiſes for a Reward of my Labour and Obedience in this Life. And ſince, thro' the Frailty of my Nature, and the manifold Temptations which I daily meet with, I cannot always ſtand upright; I pray Thee to forgive me all Tranſgreſſions of my Duty, whether in Thought, Word, or Deed, and eſpecially forgive me the Sins and Failings of the paſt Day, and enable me by thy Holy Spirit to avoid them for the Time to come, and to be ever growing in the Graces and Virtues of the Chriſtian Life, as long

as

as thou ſhalt be pleaſed to continue me in this World. I thank Thee for thy conſtant Care over me, amidſt all the Changes of this mortal Life, and in particular for thy Preſervation of me throughout the paſt Day; and I beſeech Thee to continue thy gracious Protection to me this Night, that I may enjoy ſuch quiet and refreſhing Sleep, as may fit me for the Duties of the following Day. All which I beg of Thee in the Name, and for the Merits of thy Son Jeſus Chriſt, my bleſſed Saviour and Redeemer. *Amen.*

Our Father which art in Heaven, Hallowed be thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy Will be done in Earth, as it is in Heaven. Give us this Day our daily Bread. And forgive us our Treſpaſſes, as we forgive them that Treſpaſs againſt us. And lead us not into Temptation, but deliver us from Evil. For thine is the Kingdom, the Power, and the Glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

When

When you lie down in Bed, ſay,

I will lay me down in Peace, and take my Reſt, for it is Thou Lord only that makeſt me dwell in Safety, *Pſal.* iv. 8.

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